ROOTS

March 2026
Issue 4

Are you passionate about art & community? Welcome to:

ROOTS

a free zine project based in Madison, Wisconsin

Our purpose?—to raise awareness, lift spirits, & elevate voices in a time of chaos & confusion.

created by people, for people

connect • community • care

contribute • create

@roots_madison on Instagram

The Dane County Homeless Justice Initiative is looking for donations of supplies for our houseless neighbors.

Donation Requests:

- Gloves, hats, scarves
- Long underwear
- Socks & underwear
- Jackets
- Rain gear
- Tarps
- Hand/footwarmers
- First aid kits
- Non-perishable foods
- Water, Liquid IV
- Gift cards (grocery, Walmart, Target, convenience stores, restaurants)

Where to Donate:

- **A Room of One's Own**
2717 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI
- **MOKA**
5227 University Avenue
Madison, WI
- **Beans n Cream**
1220 W. Main Street
Sun Prairie, WI

DANE COUNTY HOMELESS JUSTICE INITIATIVE

EVENTS

- Shamrock Shuffle 5K/10K • 3/14 @ 7:45am, Downtown Madison (for Boys & Girls Club)
- Centering Black Artists • 3/15 @12pm, Chazen Museum of Art
- Lesbian Pop-Up Bar • 3/21 @ 6pm, Old Firehouse Lounge, Stoughton
- Queer & Trans Open Mic • 3/25 @ 7pm, Room of One's Own

WISCONSIN IN SPRING

In the early spring, bats start to wake up after their winter hibernation. They can be spotted flitting through the skies at dusk and dawn, where they hunt insects using echolocation. Bats love to eat mosquitos, and can consume up to 1,000 an hour. They are also excellent pollinators! Bats, while often feared, are one of the most unique protected species in Wisconsin. You can help bat populations thrive & keep them out of homes by building bat houses in your yard or at a park! Please do NOT touch bats, as they can be vectors for rabies & other diseases.

Little Brown Bat: the most common bat in Wisconsin, with a wingspan of 8-11 inches.

EMBRACING NATURE

Spending time in nature boosts happiness, promotes mindfulness, & helps you feel connected with the world around you. Take advantage of the warmer weather this March by trying an outdoor hobby!

- Hammocking - Camping
- Foraging - Nature art
- Hiking - Kayaking
- Photography - Biking
- Geocaching - Prairie reseeding
- Birdwatching - Citizen science
- Rock climbing - Fishing
- Yoga - Metal detecting
- Stargazing - Gardening

There are many beautiful natural areas to explore in Wisconsin, including state parks, lakes, rivers, caves, bluffs, hiking trails, & much more. My personal favorites in the Madison area include the UW Arboretum, Lake Kegonsa State Park, Lake Monona, Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Pheasant Branch Conservancy, & Troy Farm.

Arms Full of Wonder

DEAR READER,

Welcome to March! As the remnants of winter melt away, we inch ever-closer to the early spring predicted by Jimmy the Groundhog. I hope that this season you can bask in the light of the earlier dawns and later dusks, and I hope that your winter blues dissipate along with the snow. Life is stirring here in Wisconsin as we pull ourselves from hibernation.

This issue, I want to focus on celebrating life. There is so much fear and change in the world right now: in these moments, it's easy to forget to make time for small joys. I invite you, dear reader, to make time for a day of fun & rest this March. You deserve it. Prioritizing self-care (along with care for your community) is an integral part of taking back your power.

Love,
Your friends & neighbors at ROOTS.